

THE BLACKFOOT OPTIMIST

Republican,

OFFICIAL PAPER OF CITY OF BLACKFOOT AND OF BINGHAM COUNTY, IDAHO.

VOL. IV NO. 45

BLACKFOOT, BINGHAM COUNTY, IDAHO, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1911

\$2.00 PER YEAR

ROSS FORK MACADAMIZED ROAD WILL BE SPEEDWAY

Model Construction Being Practiced by Commission.— Binder of Crushed Rock to be Put on Monday.— Contractor Gleim Hastening work.— Up to Bannock County to Build Passable Connecting Highway.— The Pole Line Road Ideal.

Like an oasis in the desert will be the five-mile stretch of macadamized road between Ross Fork and Blackfoot, work upon which is being rushed by Contractor S.W. Gleim under the Ross Fork road commission, named by Gover Hawley, and consisting of John P. Congdon of Pocatello, T. R. Jynes of Blackfoot and State Engineer Robinson. Three miles have been graded and surfaced, and the laying of the "binder" will begin Monday. Rock is being quarried at Portneuf siding and a trainload will be shipped to Ross Fork tomorrow. A big crusher, elevator and loading bins have been installed at Ross Fork, and everything is now in readiness for the commencement of the real macadamization.

The Eleventh session of the state legislature appropriated \$20,000 for the macadamizing of this famous stretch of sand road, which has long been a terror to automobilists and freighters. The original appropriation bill called for \$30,000, but the legislature cut it down. As a result, the commission will be unable to macadamize the full five miles. It is estimated that the appropriation will be exhausted within the present graded limit of three miles, leaving two miles of bad sand yet to be taken care of. It is hoped next year to make such arrangements with the members of the state board of examiners as will permit completion of the work through the issuance of deficiency certificates.

When completed, the first three miles will be a model of road construction. The best modern practice is being observed by the commission, and its engineer Harry Wade, who represents the contractor.

The macadam begins just across the tracks at Ross Fork and parallels the railroad track the entire distance across the sand stretch. There is only one curve in the entire road, and that is a very gentle one. The heaviest grade is .78 per cent. The roadway proper is being built 12 feet wide, with ample drainage ditches on each side. The road is first graded and dragged, then rolled with a ten-ton steam roller; then sprinkled liberally and rolled again. The first layer of crushed stone will be three inches thick. This layer is rolled thoroughly and then the top dressing of finer crushed rock is added and rolled. It is the intention of the commission to suggest to the counties which are under obligations to maintain the road, that it first be sprinkled with road oil. This will tend to

amalgamate the top dressing, compact it into a mass, and in addition serve to prevent the accumulation of drifted sand.

A Tribune representative yesterday afternoon accompanied Engineer Congdon in an auto to the road, the trip being made via the pole line road which is in lamentable condition. It is dusty, rutty, terribly rough, and the bridges across canals are in a frightful state of repair. The crossing at the syphon is almost impassible. Lack of a bridge across one of the canals which leads to Indian lands west of Ross Fork necessitates a cut through the sagebrush and following the winding canal. Engineer Congdon is authority for the statement that the pole line road is an ideal one to connect with the state macadam road. It is straightaway, has no grades of any importance and the soil is ideal for good road construction. Had the \$7000 expended on what is known as the High Line road been used on the pole line road, Pocatello would have a speedway from the city limits to the Indian agency. All that is necessary, according to the engineer, is to grade the road in places, crown it up the entire distance, give it a thorough dragging and rolling, and then keep it in repair by frequent draggings. It is imperative that Bannock county make some sort of provisions for a connection with the macadam road. Bingham county has done its share along this line and the road between the north end of the macadam and Blackfoot is an excellent one. Unless Bannock county makes connections from this end the expenditure by the state of \$20,000 on the road will be of no avail. The macadam road itself will be a veritable speedway for autos, but if it is to be cut off at this end by impassable roads, it will be little used, as autoists will prefer the trip via American Falls or the Tilden bridge.

Should the movement inaugurated by the Bannock County Automobile club of this city, looking toward opening Yellowstone park to autos, be successful, it will mean that hundreds of cars will pass through this city en route to nature's wonderland. Pocatello already has a black mark against it in every automobile guide book in America, which warns tourists to beware of the Ross Fork sand road. When that bad stretch is macadamized, it will be up to Bannock county to repair connecting roads, which at present are as bad, if not worse, than the old sand road ever was.

Mrs. Thresa Merckley, Dies.

Many friends and a family of children, together with a husband are mourning the death of Mrs. Thresa, wife of Jacob Merckley, a rancher living north of town. Mrs. Merckley was a christian woman, a member of the L. D. S. church and an active worker therein. On Tuesday, September 26th, the deceased was stricken with appendicitis and was immediately removed to the city hospital, where an operation was performed, and from which she was recovering with a degree of rapidity that was pleasing to every one. On Monday afternoon she was permitted to sit up for a short time, and at 9 o'clock when Mr. Merckley left the hospital for the night, Mrs. Merckley's condition was all that could be desired. She was left by all save the attendant to sleep a sleep which was thought to be the quietest that she had during her illness. About 3 o'clock Tuesday morning she died, and her taking away came as a blow to nurses, physicians and family.

At the time of her death she was forty-eight years old, and together with the other members of the family had been a resident of this county about three years, coming from St. Charles, Bear Lake county.

To Mr. and Mrs. Merckley have been born the following children:

Nathaniel, Marion, Chauncey, Carlyle and Sarah, all of whom are living. The body was shipped to Bear Lake county for interment on Short Line train No 4, Wednesday morning.

A large number of friends extend their sympathy to the bereaved husband and children, who have suffered the loss of a loving helpmate and mother.

Deeds Filed.

Harry Bennett to J. L. Wigand, part of block 3, McDonald's addition.

Lorenzo R. Thomas to Della A. Fisher, part of lot 2, Younie addition.

Virgil Barron to John A. Whitworth, E 1-2 N W 4, Sec. 20 Trop. 1, S R 37 E B M United States to John Vaughan S W 1-4 Sec 21, 6 S. 30 E.

Frank C. Parkinson to James Hunter, part of lot 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 block 31, Danilson's addition.

McMullen, Jas. C. to Rose Farman lot 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, block 5, McMullen's addition to Firth.

George Longhurst to Faner et al. N 2 S W 1-4 Sec 1, 1 Sec 37 E.

Wight to Lonie Ely E 1-2 S W 1-4 Sec. 32, 1 S, 37 E.

Marriage License.

L. G. Bennett and Ireta Waldram

CHILDREN TO WELCOME PRESIDENT IN POCATELLO

Secretary Coker of the Pocatello Commercial club was in town early this week discussing with the trustees and faculty of the school details for a big parade of school children in Pocatello on Friday to welcome President Taft on the occasion of his visit to the Gate City.

Pocatello is giving all outsiders a chance of getting in with them to welcome the President; even to the breakfast; for Blackfoot, county seat of Bingham county will provide the peaches, Bonneville county will furnish eggs, Freemont has been invited to furnish elk or bear meat and Twin Falls will supply the "spuds." This is an excellent idea and works along the lines of the true community spirit which is going to build up this section of Idaho.

Now referring to the children's parade again, the Pocatello Com-

mmercial Club has got a large supply of flags which will be furnished to the children with which to salute the President; it is planned to either have them line the side-walks of the thoroughfares through which the President will pass or to mass them at the school grounds where they will be able to see and to hear their President. The latter idea is the most favored and will almost certainly be adopted.

Arrangements have been in hand for special trains to be run to Pocatello, a special rate is granted by the Railroad Company and it is up to every parent to give the children a chance to see and hear the "people's choice."

The special train from Blackfoot will leave at about 6:45 to 7:00 a. m. and will return from Pocatello about 9:30 a. m.

A Warrant Of Arrest Served.

A warrant for the arrest of H. C. Dipple, charging him with selling intoxicating liquors, was served from the sheriff's office Saturday, Sept. 30. This warrant was issued on the 17th day of last June, and the complaining witness was Deputy Sheriff W. H. Kestner.

Prunes for sale at my ranch one mile southeast of town. T.S. Riley.

For Sale Or Trade.

Five room frame house on a lot 57ft. x 159ft. on Washington Ave. in Ogden, Utah, on car line one mile from heart of city. Will trade for farm land near Blackfoot, or sell on easy terms.

ESTLEY KNAPP,
Leslie, Idaho

O-5-21
The Blackfoot Grain & Produce company are ready to take potatoes.



COL. THOS. R. HAMER.

of St. Anthony, who has announced that he will next year be a candidate for congress. At the recent Republican meeting at Boise, Col. Hamer made one of his characteristic speeches, being greeted enthusiastically.

School Notes

The prevailing topic of interest is the visit of President Taft and the excursion to Pocatello. School will go on as usual but those children who wish to see Mr. Taft will be excused until the return of the excursion train at 10:30 a.m.

The enrollment in the high school still grows. After the deed and potatoe harvest we will have the usual number of new pupils added and then we can boast of the largest high school in Idaho with the exception of Boise.

A complete arrangement of courses of study for the High school is being prepared for publication. It is proposed to offer the following courses which will meet the demands of pupils no matter what their future aims may be. English Course, Latin Course, Scientific or Agricultural Course, Commercial Course and a Two Year's Stenographer's Course. The details of each of these will be given later.

The total enrollment of the Blackfoot School is just 31 more than last year while the high school has 32 more than at this time last year. There are more than fifty grade pupils out at this time working in the beets, when these have enrolled we will have nearly 100 pupils more than last year. This is a good substantial growth for the school and community.

There have been located in the homes of Blackfoot citizens fifteen girls and seven boys who are working for their board while attending school. This is doing a good turn to

the young people and at the same time giving the busy mothers more time to enjoy the out of door life.

It would be an interesting diversion for any one interested in the practical side of education, to step in during the afternoon session and watch a group of boys busy at their benches with manual training. Mr. Venderhoof has this work in the basement of the Irving building and would be pleased to have any one visit his classes.

The reading of "The Fortune Hunter" by Mr. Blackwell was listened to by a small but very appreciative audience. Every one is lavish in their praise of the entertainment. There is an effort to bring Prof. Blackwell back for a future date. If this can be arranged he will give "The Taming of the Shrew" and should be heard by a capacity house as he is the finest entertainer heard in Blackfoot for many months.

New, Sanitary Barn.

W.W. Tolman, the dairyman, has just completed a fine barn at his dairy west of town. It is made especially for the sheltering of his dairy herd, and is equipped with a cement floor, proper drainage trough and water for flushing the floors of the stalls. Mr. Tolman is endeavoring to give his customers the best pure milk and cream obtainable. If you want pure milk or cream call Phone No. 164 red.

Wants To Buy Potatoes.

L. M. Capps wants to buy potatoes and any one wishing to sell would do well to see him before selling elsewhere.

New Goods!

You Will Find the Goods the
Best. The Prices Right

NEW! NEW! NEW!

Ladies' and Children's Coats
Ladies' and Children's Dresses
Ladies' Tailored Suits
Ladies' and Children's Shoes
Ladies' Skirts and Waists
Ladies' Sweaters and Scarfs
Ladies' Collars, Bags, Belts
Ladies' Long and Short Kid Gloves
Ladies' Millinery
Men's Suits and Overcoats
Boys' and Children's Suits
Men's and Boys' Shoes
Men's and Boys' Gloves
Men's and Boys' Sweaters
Men's and Boys' Hats and Ties

Two car loads of Furniture just
unloaded

A nice line of Navajo Rugs just
received direct from New Mexico.

Latest and most beautiful de-
signs

Come in and see the most complete
lines of the above goods in Black-
foot.

THE GOODS THE BEST.
PRICES RIGHT

BIETHAN'S